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ABSTRACT

This paper provides a current status report of the operational capability and use of the Time-shared, Interactive, Computer Controlled, Information Television (TICCIT)+10 system at the Model Secondary School for the Deaf (MSSD), Gallaudet College, Washington, D.C. TICCIT+10 is a version of the TICCIT system, which was modified to meet the needs of the MSSD. Certain features were added; the resulting system was then linked to a larger computer (DEC-10) on the Gallaudet campus. Included in this report are the mission statement and objectives, staffing considerations, the system's configuration status, software status, and the dissemination effort. A selected bibliography presents recommended reading for more detailed information about TICCIT or TICCIT+10. (VT)

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TICCIT+10: A STATUS REPORT

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TICCIT+10: A STATUS REPORT

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this paper is to provide the reader with a current status report of the operational capability and use of the Time shared, Interactive, Computer Controlled, Information Television (TICCIT)+10 computer system at the Model Secondary School for the Deaf (MSSD), Gallaudet College, Washington, D.C.

The TICCIT+10 is a modified version of the TICCIT system, developed by the MITRE Corporation. To make the system more usable by the MSSD, certain features were added to TICCIT's standard components; the resulting system was then linked to a larger computer (DEC-10) on the Gallaudet campus, hence the name TICCIT+10. (Readers are referred to the Bibliography on page 10 for more detailed information about TICCIT or TICCIT+10.)

MISSION STATEMENT AND OBJECTIVES

In planning for work to be accomplished during the initial implementation stages of the TICCIT +10 system, several areas of need were identified as follows:

...Computer Courseware had to be developed and/or purchased which considered the special educational needs of the MSSD's student population.

...Computer programming support had to be provided to various departments within the MSSD to help them achieve their administrative and research goals.

...Resources had to be allocated to maintain and operate the vast array of computer equipment for which the Computer Unit was responsible.

...In-service activities had to be planned and implemented for both Computer Unit personnel and for other MSSD faculty/staff members.

...A system had to be formulated and implemented which would provide the users of the TICCIT+10 with continuous support and assistance on a daily basis.

To achieve this mission, objectives were established for the TICCIT+10 Computer Unit:

1. To assist in the development and design of courseware for computer-assisted/computer-managed instruction.
2. To provide computer programming support for instructional, administrative, and research use of the computer.
3. To operate the MSSD computer system, including peripheral and external equipment.
4. To acquire and store shelf-ready computer-assisted instruction programs for student use.
5. To provide in-service and professional enrichment activities for Computer Unit staff.
6. To provide in-service programs on uses of the computer for MSSD faculty/staff in cooperation with the Office of In-Service Planning.
7. To monitor MSSD faculty/staff and students in their use of computer software and courseware.

STAFFING

To meet the objectives as listed, the Computer Unit has been allocated 6.72 FTE personnel. Providing administrative and supervisory guidance is the Coordinator of the Department of Learning Resources (.15 FTE) and the Supervisor of Computer Services (.80 FTE). The Coordinator has eleven (11) years experience in providing educational technology services to deaf and hearing impaired students. The Supervisor of Computer Services has been involved with providing TICCIT services for approximately five (5) years, both at MSSD and at one of the original TICCIT demonstration sites, Brigham Young University (BYU). They are assisted by a secretary (.10 FTE) who provides clerical support.

Assigned to assist the administrators of the Computer Unit is a staff of computer programmers, computer operators and technical support personnel. This staff brings a combined experience of approximately forty-five (45) years of working with computer technology:

Senior Programmers	2.00 FTE
Computer Operators	2.00 FTE
Technical Manager/System Engineer	.12 FTE
Systems Electronic Technician	.80 FTE

Providing software development support to the Computer Unit is a staff of diverse personnel from the other units of the Department of Learning Resources:

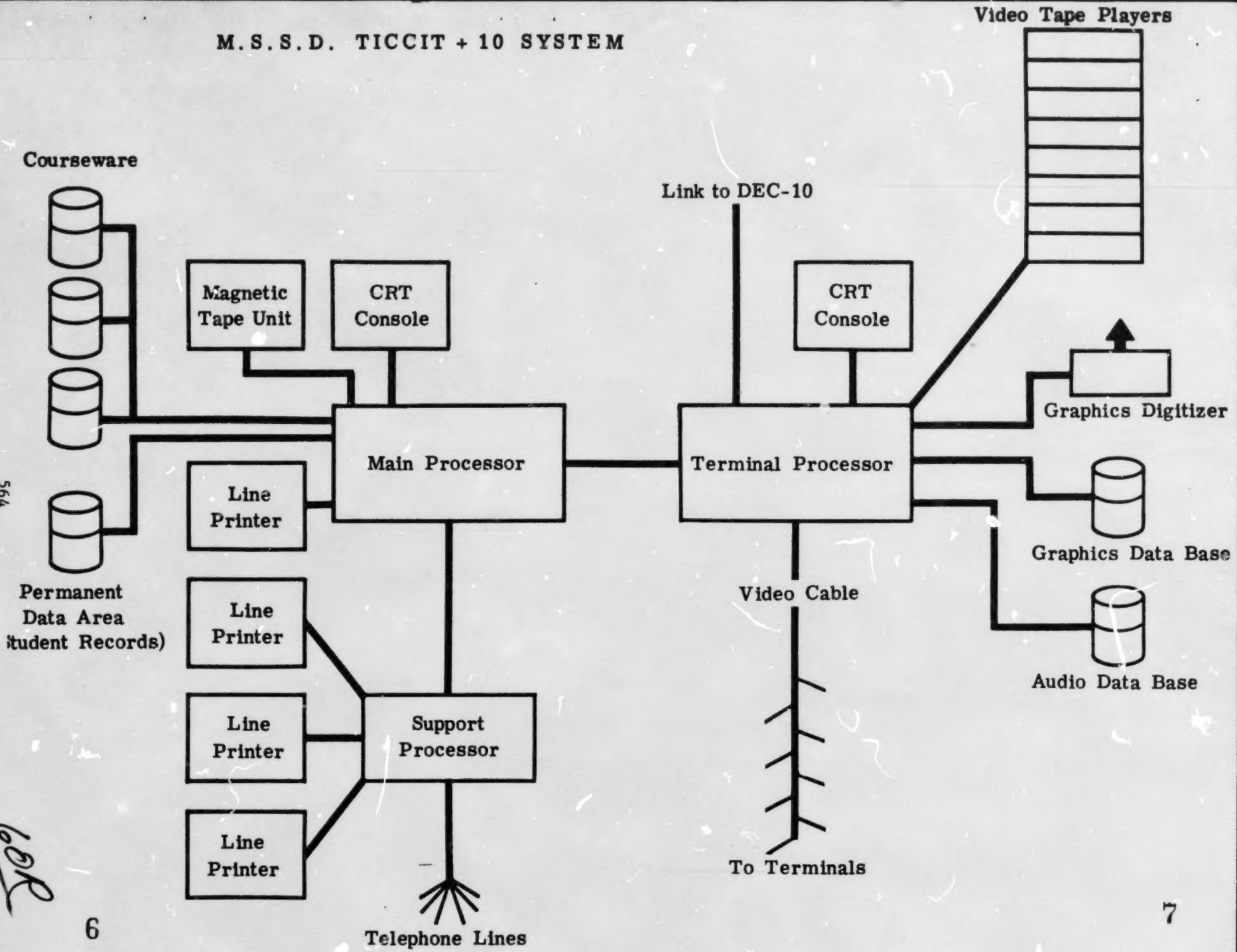
Assistant for TV Production/Direction	.15 FTE
TV Scriptwriter/Packager	.25 FTE
TV Production Specialist	.05 FTE
Editor/Caption Writer	.05 FTE
Transcriber/Production Assistant	.05 FTE
Materials' Evaluator	.10 FTE
Acquisitions Associate	.10 FTE

Also involved in the production of software for the TICCIT+10 system are teams of content specialists, instructional design specialists, evaluation specialists, photographers, and artists.

SYSTEM'S CONFIGURATION STATUS

There are eighty-three (83) TICCIT+10 terminals in operation at the Model Secondary School for the Deaf, including sites at student dormitories and at strategic locations on Gallaudet College campus. The system is operating at full capacity and response time for a user is under one-half (1/2) second.

M.S.S.D. TICCIT + 10 SYSTEM



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At this time, all the system's functions are operational and being utilized by students and staff.

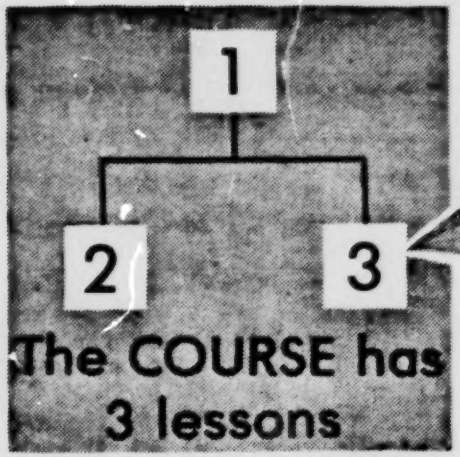
- .The GRAPHIC DIGITIZER enters artwork semi-automatically into the computer.
- .The AUDIO system aids hearing impaired students with some residual hearing.
- .The STUDENT RECORD KEEPING feature monitors student progress with CAI/CMI programs.
- .The MAILBOX feature allows messages to be left on the computer system for one or more other system users.
- .TERMINAL-TO-TERMINAL COMMUNICATION allows a user to converse with another user also logged onto the system.
- .The TTY (Teletypwriter) capability allows the TICCIT+10 terminal to function as a TTY displaying on-screen communication and generating paper copy through a remote line printer.
- .The VIDEOPHONE enhances two-way communication for the hearing impaired by allowing the transmission of both aural and visual signals between one to twenty-five users.
- .The CABLE TELEVISION system is linked to the TICCIT+10 and provides live and video-taped programs.

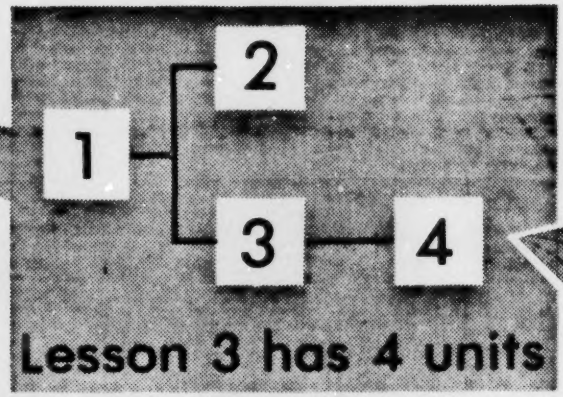
Being added to the TICCIT+10 system is a third Data General NOVA 830. This mini computer will be used for data reduction activities and as a back-up system. Simultaneous use of both administrative and instructional processes will be possible with this addition to the system's configuration.

SOFTWARE STATUS

Currently, instructional design teams are working on the development of the first two (2) TICCIT+10 courses expressly designed for MSSD's special student population. The first course, "Orientation to Communication," is undergoing developmental evaluation and the second course, "Introduction to Art," is in the planning stage.

COURSE ORGANIZATION





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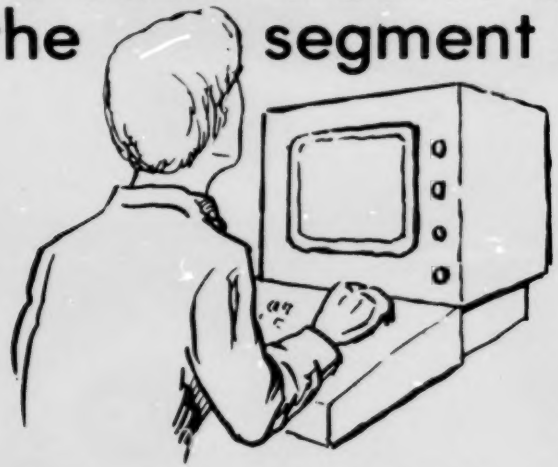

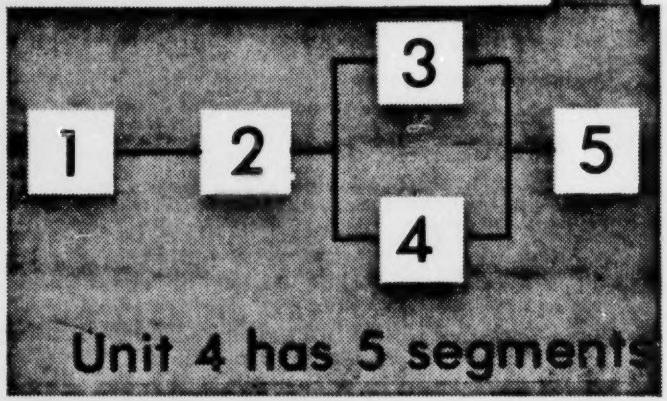

one concept or one rule at a time.

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Available for instructional purposes are two (2) TICCIT courses developed by Brigham Young University in the areas of mathematics and English and nineteen (19) video-tapes supporting these subject areas. Additionally, this VIDEO-TAPE LIBRARY contains one-hundred-twenty-five (125) captioned videotapes and it is managed by the computer's random access/retrieval system through eight (8) video cassette tape decks.

Also available for students and faculty are a collection of computer games which are designed for either instructional or entertainment purposes, and numerous computer programs which deal with personnel, student, budget, research or operational information, stored within the DEC-10. The capability exists for users to create their own computer programs using a variety of computer languages.

DISSEMINATION STATUS

The Model Secondary School for the Deaf plans to share with professionals in the field of education of the deaf and other interested individuals modified versions of TICCIT+10 courseware and related supplemental materials. There will be considerable effort expended to research the instructional variables inherent in the education of hearing impaired students and the role TICCIT+10 can play in that teaching/learning effort; these results will be shared nationwide as well.

Currently, MSSD's dissemination effort concerning TICCIT +10 is limited to a small collection of papers and presentations, which deal with an overview of the computer system, its uses, and its potential impact on the education of the deaf.

INFORMATION

For more information about TICCIT+10, please contact:

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Kendall Green
Washington, D.C. 20002

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